

Forehoe & Henstead Rural District Council



THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(DR. B. M. DODD, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.)

the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(MR. A. J. BOWEN, B.S.P.H.J., M.R.S.H.)

and the

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

(W. A. JONES, M.I.C.E., M.R.S.H.)

for

1959

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T H E A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
(Irene B. M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.)

F O R T H E

R U R A L D I S T R I C T O F F O R E H O E & H E N S T E A D

N O R F O L K

For the year ended 31st. December, 1959

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1959.

G E N E R A L S T A T I S T I C S

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	69,939
Resident mid-year population, 1959 (as estimated by						
Registrar General)	...	...	...	...	...	25,000
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	8,154
Rateable value (end of 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	£179,019
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£778

The estimated mid-year population was 25,000 compared with 24,910 in 1958, an increase of 90. There was an excess of 13 deaths over live births and so a small increase from emigration can be assumed.

W E A T H E R C O N D I T I O N S

The year 1959 will live in memory as a year of glorious sunshine and a long drought. It was the most dry year since 1921 and the summer months from May to September broke all records for low rainfall since 1750.

The sunshine total for 1959 was the highest since local records began. Although the mean temperature of 62.7°F was exceeded in 1947, 1933 and 1911.

January began with sunshine but was also rather wet with 10 days of snow but there was a very sunny February with an unusually high temperature towards the end of the month. March was mild and dull but April turned warm and sunny with about average rainfall.

May, June, July and August gave almost continuous sunshine with only very occasional, localised thundery rain.

September was another dry, sunny month and this weather continued until the middle of October when at last the rain came. This was a very heavy downpour and as much fell in 24 hours as had been recorded over the previous 58 days.

Rain was frequent for the rest of the month while November was average for temperature, rainfall and sunshine. December was mild but was wetter than usual and only a few slight ground frosts had been recorded by the end of the year.

To sum up the weather of 1959, sunshine and drought were a feature of all but the 3 winter months and although most welcome to holidaymakers, these conditions caused great anxiety to both the farmer and the water engineer.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

LIVE BIRTHS

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	188	163	351
Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	5	12
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				195	168	363
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	14.52
Birth rate adjusted for age and sex	...	...	...	...	...	15.54
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	16.5

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	...	...	...	7	4	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	1	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				7	5	12
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	32.0
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths (England and Wales)						20.7

				Male	Female	Total
<u>DEATHS</u>	....	....	...	194	194	388

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population						15.52
Death Rate adjusted for sex and age			...			10.71
Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)						11.6

INFANT MORTALITY Deaths of infants under one year of age

Legitimate	....	....	....	6	8	14
Illegitimate	....	....	....	-	-	-
				—	—	—
				<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>

1959 1958

Infant Mortality rate (Infant deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	....	....		38.5	10.7
Infant Mortality rate (England & Wales)	....			22.0	
Neo-natal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under four weeks per 1,000 live births)	....			27.5	8.04
Legitimate Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births)	....			39.9	10.9
Illegitimate Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	....			Nil	Nil
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	....	....		3.3%	0.80%
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births (England & Wales)	....			5.1%	
Maternal deaths (Deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)	....			Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	....	....		Nil	Nil
Perinatal Mortality	....	....		48.0	
Perinatal Mortality (England & Wales)	....			34.2	

These tables show that the district is both gaining by birth and losing by death at a slightly slower rate than the country as a whole.

The illegitimacy rate is much higher^h than last year but is still below the national figure. Infants have not been so fortunate this year and the infant mortality rate has risen well above the national figure. There were again no maternal deaths associated with childbirth.

CAUSES of 14 INFANT DEATHS

		(congenital deformity	7
Inevitable	-	(prematurity	2
		(birth injury	1
Obstetrical	-	(asphyxia	2
		(infection	1
Preventable	-	(acute obstruction	1

			14

PREMATURE BIRTHS

Total number of premature births	...	...	14
Number of deaths due to prematurity	...	...	2
Number of premature stillbirths	...	...	5

Although there were 14 deaths of infants under a year giving the high infant mortality rate of 38.5, the above tables show that the main increase was due to conditions incompatible with life, such as congenital deformities and extreme prematurity. There were 9 infants who died from such causes and a further 3 suffered some obstetrical mishap causing asphyxia in 2 cases and convulsions in the other one. All but 4 infants died in the first 4 weeks.

The only truly preventable deaths were, therefore, one from acute bronchitis at the age of 1 month and a further one from acute bowel obstruction at 5 months. This latter condition is not very common and is sometimes not suspected until it is too late for an operation to save the infant's life.

There were three more stillbirths than last year, making a total of 12, and these added to the 6 who did not survive the first week give a new rate known as a perinatal mortality rate, summing up the fate of the viable child. It is thought that many of the causes of stillbirth are the same as those causing the very early infant deaths. This perinatal death rate was 48 per 1,000 live and stillbirths, while the national figure was 34.2. Research is going on in

various centres into the causes of the loss of these viable infants and it will be of interest to hear what conclusions are arrived at by the experts. It may be that some circumstance of the life of the expectant mother adversely affects her unborn child. If so, it may be possible so to alter it that more infants are born alive and subsequently survive.

DEATHS UNDER 40 (Excluding infants under 1 year)

There were only 5 deaths registered between the ages of 1 and 40, three less than in 1958. No child over 1 year died nor any young person under 28.

The causes of these premature deaths were as follows:-

Accidental

Road	...	...	...	2	(males aged 28 and 34)
Acute infections			...	2	(1 female aged 39, also a cretin - Bronchitis) (1 male aged 31 - Encephalitis)
Chronic illness	...	...	...	1	(female aged 38 - Ulcerative colitis)

The 2 accidental deaths occurred in early working life and being preventable are wholly to be regretted. One of the fatal acute infections affected a mental defective, always vulnerable to chest disease. Encephalitis is rather rare nowadays and is sometimes of a type that cannot be controlled by even the most modern drugs.

The age groups under 40 have had a very small mortality rate during 1959 with a minimum of preventable deaths.

AGE GROUPS (Deaths from all causes)

<u>Age</u>	<u>Infants</u> <u>under 1</u>	<u>Pre-</u> <u>School</u>	<u>School</u> <u>Age</u>	<u>Working Life</u>			<u>Pensionable Age</u>			
				15-40	41-50	51-65	66-75	76-85	86-95	95+
Totals	14	-	-	5	14	52	84	168	46	5

It will be seen that 77.8% of all deaths occurred over the age of 65, 56% over the age of 75 and 10.5% over 85. A total of 71 deaths were registered during working life, 52 of these being between the ages of 51 and 65. There were 5 old people who died between the ages of 95 and 100.

CAUSES OF DEATH (Registrar General)

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	-	1
Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	-	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	...	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	8	2	10
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	9	-	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	12	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	21	14	35
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	...	...	3	-	3
Diabetes	...	...	...	-	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	15	34	49
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	21	20	41
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	3	5	8
Other heart diseases	...	...	...	44	47	91
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	17	17	34
Influenza	...	...	...	1	-	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	16	8	24
Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	6	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	...	...	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	-	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	4	-	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	3	4	7
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	9	14	23
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	6	-	6
All other accidents	...	...	...	6	4	10
Suicide	...	...	...	-	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	-	-	-
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				194	194	388
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

There was only one death from pulmonary tuberculosis and apart from the fatal case of encephalitis and one death from influenza, none was caused by any other acute infectious disease.

CANCER OF THE LUNG

There were 9 deaths from cancer of the lung, all male, compared with 8 male and 3 female deaths last year.

Ages at death - (Male)

45-50	51-55	56-60	61-65	over 65	Total
1	1	-	6	1	9

All but one of these deaths occurred during working life, two of them under the age of 54 and one of these died at the early age of 46. With the expectation of life today this is really premature death for most of these men. As this disease is known to be associated with heavy smoking, it can be assumed that some if not all of these deaths were actually preventable.

GENERAL

The commonest causes of death were cancer and malignant disease (67) and heart and circulatory disease (coronary disease 41 compared with 35 in 1958). The 3 respiratory diseases of influenza (1), pneumonia (24) and bronchitis (9) caused about the same number of deaths as in 1958, mostly amongst the elderly.

I N F E C T I O U S D I S E A S E

Disease	N/K	0-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	3	4	34	28	3	-	-	-	73
Whooping Cough	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Measles	3	30	25	87	16	3	4	-	-	168
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	2	-	5	7	4	22
Dysentery	1	4	-	2	1	-	2	5	-	15
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Food Poisoning	2	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	6
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Totals	:	8	41	32	124	47	13	13	5	290

There were 290 cases of infectious disease notified during the year compared with 212 in 1958. The main difference lay in a larger incidence of scarlet fever (73 instead of 19) and an increase in dysentery (15 compared with 5) and slightly more measles (168 compared with 156).

SCARLET FEVER

There was a large increase in the amount of scarlet fever notified during the year and of the 73 cases, 62 were in children of school age. The disease was generally prevalent in the county and country as a whole. The local picture of the incidence was of small outbreaks at Hingham and Morley (Wymondham College) during February and March, with a few cases in about 8 other parishes, accounting for more than half the year's total. Cases continued to occur sporadically during the rest of the year with the next highest incidence in June when there were 8 cases. Altogether, there were 14 parishes from which cases were notified.

No complications were reported, there were no admissions to hospital and no deaths. The usual precautions were taken with family contacts to detect any infectious nasal carriers who might be either food-handlers or school-children. Whole school classes were surveyed by the school nurses where more than one case had occurred and potentially infectious children excluded until negative swabs were obtained.

There has been some evidence recently of the recurrence of cases of nephritis and acute rheumatism, both associated with infection by the haemolytic streptococcus, an organism which has many strains and is the cause of scarlet fever. It may be that we are seeing a return of virulence in this type of germ and we may have to treat its manifestations with more respect than we have tended to do in recent years.

MEASLES

There were slightly more cases of measles, 168 compared with 156 in 1958. The main parishes in which local epidemics occurred were Cringleford and Hethersett where the incidence was heavy, with a moderate outbreak in Deopham. The months of June, July and August had the most cases with a few occurring sporadically from February to September in several other parishes. No complications or deaths were reported.

WHOOPING COUGH

Only 3 cases of whooping cough were notified compared with 2 last year, continuing the low incidence we have been hoping for since general vaccination of infants has been available. It is still too early to be sure that the disease is being successfully controlled but recent reports do suggest that vaccination is being effective.

POLIOMYELITIS

There were again no cases of poliomyelitis during the year. It is still too early to attribute this freedom from disease to the successful widespread protection of the community by vaccination but the results so far are encouraging.

V A C C I N A T I O N A G A I N S T P O L I O M Y E L I T I S

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued during 1959, when 16,802 persons received 2 injections and 11,909 received 3 injections. All these were between the ages of 6 months and 25 years. These figures refer to the County Council Area 4 which comprises St.Faiths & Aylsham Rural District and Forehoe and Henstead.

On population, approximately 37% of these cases were residents in the district. The response continued to be good for children of all ages but the age group 15 - 25 gave disappointing results except where sessions were arranged at places of employment when nearly 100% of those eligible accepted treatment.

I N F E C T I O U S G A S T R O - E N T E R I T I S (including food poisoning)

SONNE DYSENTERY

Unfortunately, sonne dysentery was more prevalent than in 1958 and it is possible that the long, dry, hot summer may have had some effect on its incidence. There were 15 cases notified, most of them in November and December. An outbreak at a Norwich factory resulted in several cases which were followed up in collaboration with the City Public Health Department. Apart from these, 7 households were affected of which three had more than one case. The majority cleared up within 2 to 3 weeks of onset, but 1 case continued to give positive specimens for 6 weeks.

SALMONELLA FOOD POISONING

Salmonella typhimurium was responsible for all 6 cases of food poisoning notified. There were 4 adult cases and 2 children. They appeared to have no connection with one another and in most cases the food source of the infection was never discovered.

In one child of 2 the possible cause was a lightly cooked duck egg and one cowman was obviously infected from young calves suffering from scours. Investigation of the organisms responsible showed them to be of the same type in the man and the calves. This is a source of illness which hasnot been well recognised and research is now being carried on in collaboration with the veterinary experts to discover how widespread the infection is amongst those handling infected calves.

STAPHYLOCOCCAL FOOD POISONING

Outbreak at Easton.

In the middle of August, there was a sudden large outbreak of sickness and diarrhoea during a wedding party at Easton. Out of a total of 78 persons who attended, 42 were taken ill.

Onset in nearly all cases was sudden and violent and closely followed the meal. Indeed some people were so prostrated that they could barely get out of the building before vomiting.

On investigation, within an hour of the first report being received, it was found that the food had been prepared the day before, kept in ordinary house larders overnight and put on the tables in the hall during the morning. It remained there until 5 p.m., when the meal was due to begin.

The weather was tropical with the shade temperature in the 80's and 90's all day. The hall was roofed with corrugated iron, very inadequately ventilated and had no cold storage facilities whatever. There were many flies noticed in the hall during the day and evening and the sanitation consisted of one Elsan appliance inside the building and one pail closet just outside the side door.

The meal consisted of sliced ham and tongue, tinned vegetable salad, green salad, tinned fruit salad and tinned cream. The ham and tongue had been supplied from Norwich and the City Medical Officer of Health arranged for investigation of the shops and food-handlers concerned.

Laboratory investigation revealed that the tongue gave an almost pure growth of a strain of staphylococcus aureus known to be associated with food poisoning. To a lesser degree, all the other foods showed some contamination with the same organism. The exact source of the primary contamination of the tongue was never determined but various strains of staphylococcus were grown from the brine and the slicer as well as from some of the food-handlers.

It is probable that infected tongue being stored, uncovered, under hot, humid conditions and infested with flies for many hours was responsible for most of the illness which was certainly staphylococcal food poisoning. The three factors of time, temperature and contamination were equally responsible for the outbreak.

The attacks, though violent, were mostly shortlived and recovery was usually complete in 2-3 days. 6 people were taken to hospital and 3 were detained for 1 or more days. There were no fatal cases. Under the food-handling conditions described above, it would have been surprising if no food poisoning outbreak had occurred. The setting for it could be described as absolutely classical.

ENTERIC DISEASES

No case of typhoid or paratyphoid was notified during the year.

GENERAL SICKNESS

The new sickness claims to the Ministry of National Insurance give a good indication of the advent of an epidemic of some infection, usually of a respiratory disease, such as influenza. In 1959, the months of January and February showed only average sickness rates but there was a sudden rise in the second week of March, reaching a peak of $2\frac{1}{2}$ times that of the previous week. This rapidly subsided and the figures were back to average by the middle of April. For the rest of the year the rates were a little below average showing only a slight seasonal rise in November.

There were a few cases of confirmed influenza, only 1 of which was fatal, while deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis were one less than in 1958 and occurred mostly in the elderly. The very wet summer of 1958 does not seem to have rendered the community less resistant to respiratory disease.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives the ages and sex incidence during the year:-

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 35	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 55	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
56 - 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals :	5	6	-	2	1	-	-	-

Cases on Register at 31st. December, 1959:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Male	64	60	20	21	84	81
Female	47	43	22	21	69	64
Totals :	111	103	42	42	153	145

There was a total of 153 cases on the Register at the end of the year, 8 more than in 1958; 11 new cases of pulmonary type were notified and 2 non-pulmonary.

The 11 new cases were 5 males aged 2, 7, 31, 42 and 54 and 6 females aged 3, 5, 7, 18, 21 and 47.

The 2 non-pulmonary cases were females aged 26 and 28 suffering from disease of the neck glands and kidneys respectively. There was only one death, a male aged 56.

INCIDENCE

<u>Area</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Rate</u>
County of Norfolk	104	0.27	12	0.031
Forehoe and Henstead	11	0.44	2	0.08

MORTALITY

County of Norfolk	18	0.05	5	0.01
Forehoe & Henstead	1	0.04	-	-
England & Wales	3475	0.076	380	0.008

The incidence for both types of disease was above the rate for the county of Norfolk.

The mortality rate for pulmonary cases is below that for both county and the whole country. The 1959 incidence was artificially increased by the retrospective notification of a family of 4 who were diagnosed and treated in 1958.

TREATMENT

Admissions to Sanatoria and Hospitals:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1952	12	10	22
1953	16	9	25
1954	11	11	22
1955	9	6	15
1956	1	5	6
1957	6	3	9
1958	3	3	6
1959	2	5	7

PREVENTION

Again in 1959, B.C.G. vaccination was offered to all school-children over 13 in the district. The acceptance rate and the results of tuberculin testing for those attending schools in this district are shown as follows:-

Total Number in Age Group	:	280	
Number tested	:	188	Acceptance Rate 67%
Number positive	:	29	Rate Positive 15%
Number vaccinated	:	149	

There were fewer in the eligible age group in 1959 because only one year's entry was concerned. The acceptance rate was lower being 67% compared with 75% in 1958. The percentage positive fell from 20% to 15% which may reflect the fall in the amount of infection in the general community so that fewer children of school age have met an active case by chance during their lives.

It is to be hoped that the waning enthusiasm for acceptance of vaccination is only a temporary setback and that prudent parents will accept this real preventive treatment for their children in even larger numbers in future years.

Vaccination continues to be offered to all susceptible contacts of cases treated at the Chest Clinic and is seldom refused by parents nowadays.

GENERAL COMMENT

Tuberculosis as a killing and disabling disease continues to decline in the community and again the year's figures give an encouraging picture in the district as a whole.

Now that the public is becoming aware that the early case can be treated successfully and that cured patients live absolutely normal lives, there is less stigma attached to the disease and therefore less reluctance to seek treatment.

No doubt there is still a reservoir of unknown active cases in the general population but their numbers must be diminishing from terminal illness and increasing use of diagnostic mass x-ray surveys.

R O A D A C C I D E N T S

By the courtesy of the Road Safety Officer I am again able to give the following summary of accidents which occurred on the roads of this rural district during 1959. Only some of these figures refer to persons actually resident in the district:-

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
Total number of accidents	355	306
Total number of accidents without injury	215	181
Total number of accidents with injury	140	125

	<u>Fatal</u>		<u>Serious</u>		<u>Slight</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958
Drivers	2	-	17	21	23	26	42	47
Passengers	-	-	13	11	16	42	29	53
Motor Cyclists	-	-	19	14	27	21	46	35
Pillion Passengers	-	-	6	5	4	3	10	8
Pedal Cyclists	1	2	12	4	23	19	36	25
Pedestrians	1	-	8	4	6	7	15	11
Totals :	4	2	75	59	99	118	178	179

There were 4 deaths compared with 2 last year, 2 drivers, 1 pedal cyclist and 1 pedestrian, all adults. Although the total number of accidents was 49 more than last year, one less person was injured in an accident. The reduction in the number injured was unfortunately amongst the group with slight injuries, 99 compared with 118, while there were 75 seriously injured compared with only 59 last year.

Considering various types of road user separately, the motor passengers had the greatest reduction in the number of mishaps, only 29 injured compared with 53 last year, while pedal cyclists had a much more unfortunate year, 36 injuries compared with 25. Motor cyclists had a worse year than in 1958, 46 compared with 35 while the other 2 groups of pillion passengers and pedestrians both showed slight increases. Motor drivers had a slight reduction in injuries, 42 compared with 47, although as stated above, 2 were fatal.

Children's Accidents

This year the accidents causing injury to pedestrians and cyclists have been given for the under 15's separately as the following table shows. Adult figures are given in brackets for comparison:-

	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>Serious</u>	<u>Slight</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pedestrians	- (1)	3 (5)	2 (4)	5 (10)
Pedal Cyclists	- (1)	3 (9)	10 (13)	13 (23)
Totals :	- (2)	6 (14)	12 (17)	18 (33)

It will be seen that no children were killed during the year but that 6 were seriously injured, 3 pedestrians and 3 cyclists and 12 were slightly injured giving a total of 18. Compared with adult pedestrians, there were only half as many mishaps to children and amongst the 36 pedal cyclists injured, only 13 of them were under 15 years of age.

There is no means of knowing how many there are at risk in each category of road user, but it would appear that the roads have taken less toll of life and limb from our younger citizens than their more experienced elders during 1959. Nevertheless, even 18 injured children is 18 too many and no efforts should be spared to make our roads safer and our children better-controlled and more responsible when they use them.

FOOD & DRUGS ACTS 1938 - 1955

Milk & Dairies Regulations

No bulk samples of milk were found to be positive to tuberculosis during the year. It is now 2 years since positive samples were examined.

ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938

No cases of anthrax were reported this year.

ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW 1959

Conditions at the showground at Costessey had been much improved this year by the provision of more permanent buildings. A store was provided for the use of official caterers with a supply of electricity to work a large refrigerator.

Two new brick-built toilets for men and women had been erected near two of the entrance gates. Excellent quarters had been provided for the herdswomen with sleeping accommodation, rest room and tea-making facilities, quite near the site used by goat exhibitors.

The usual efforts were made beforehand to ensure that all caterers, official and private, knew the standards of food hygiene expected of them. Unfortunately many of our advisory letters appear to have miscarried and failed to reach the people actually doing the catering, resulting in some very unsatisfactory conditions which could have been avoided if those responsible had bothered to take the advice given.

I have decided that only an illustrated cartoon will ensure that even those of doubtful literacy can see what is necessary to provide for efficient food handling. The three essentials are (1) a sump in the ground for waste water, (2) a swill bin (provided free on demand) for wet refuse and (3) a dustbin (also provided) for dry refuse. A pictorial representation of these requirements might deter some people from using a badly sited hole in the ground for all three purposes!

The sanitary and refuse services worked quite efficiently and the Honorary Medical Officers reported less than average incidence of sickness and accidents. Heat, however, seems to have had an unhappy effect on swine for the commonest ailment treated was pigbite.

A certain number of routine samples of food were taken for bacteriological examination but none was found to be dangerously contaminated.

Conditions have greatly improved over the years in respect of general hygiene and clean food handling but there is still room for improvement in some quarters. As usual, the Public Health Staff had the most helpful co-operation from the Secretary and Staff of the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association.

H O U S I N G

<u>Waiting List</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
No. of applicants at 31st December	248	284

Analysis of Waiting List

Small Unit Families	199	222
Large Unit Families	49	62

NOTE: Small Unit Families are those suitable for one or two bedroomed dwellings and consist largely of married couples with one child or two children of the same sex. Large Unit Families mainly represent those with more than two children, or two children over eight years of age of opposite sex.

Agricultural workers	65	59
Others	183	225

Local Authority Houses

Position at 31st December 1959

Pre-war	857	848
Post-war	947	925
	<u>1804</u>	<u>1773</u>

There was a further reduction in the number of applicants on the waiting list, 248 compared with 284 in 1958.

At the end of the year, the Council owned a total of 1804 dwellings, 857 of which were built pre-war and 947 post-war. The figure for pre-war houses is larger than in 1958 due to the purchase of 9 old houses at Hingham. The Council also acquired 4 houses at Kimberley but as there is a confirmed demolition order on them, they appear in the figures for condemned property. 22% of all inhabited houses are now owned by the Council.

New Building

Houses erected during 1959

By Council	22
By Private Building	<u>120</u>
Total	<u>142</u>

Under Construction at end of 1959

By Council	80
By Private Building	71

Private Building during last 8 years

<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
120	118	156	163	207	172	109	36

It will be seen that there was an increase of total building in the district in 1959 for the first time since 1955 when a peak of new construction was reached and this increase affected both Council and private building.

The Council erected 22 new dwellings and there were 120 by private construction with a further 80 Council and 71 private houses under construction at the end of the year.

SLUM CLEARANCE

<u>Condemned Properties</u>		<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
Properties still standing	155	60	95
Properties demolished	103		
Demolition Orders revoked	7		
New Demolition Orders made 1959	8		

Undertakings

Properties still standing	45	17	28
Properties demolished	8		
Undertakings revoked	2		
New undertakings not to re-let)			
1959)	7		

A full report on the progress of slum clearance will be found in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

My only comments on the above figures are that again this year there has been a reduction in the number of demolition orders and undertakings not to re-let and that there are still 77 properties known to be unfit for habitation still occupied.

HOUSING SURVEY (Continued)

	<u>Categories</u>					
	<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Deopham	37	49	22	1	5	114
Costessey	71	31	6	-	11	119
	108	80	28	1	16	233

Improvement of Existing Property

Council Houses. There are a few encouraging matters to report on improvements to Council houses :-

Electricity. All pre-war Council houses have an electricity supply except in 2 cases where a supply is not available.

Water Supplies and Sinks. The installation of piped water supplies and sinks to 336 pre-war properties is in progress in the following 14 parishes:

Barford	Mulbarton
Bawburgh	Rockland St.Mary
Braconash	Shotesham
Bramerton	Stoke Holy Cross
East Carleton	Surlingham
Hethersett	Swardeston
Little Melton	Wreningham

Complete Amenities. Plans are in hand for all amenities to be installed in 68 properties in the following 9 parishes :-

Arminghall	Morley St.Botolph
Deopham	Poringland
Flordon	Shotesham
Hingham	Stoke Holy Cross
Swainsthorpe	

and to 68 Old People's bungalows. There are still 57 dwellings where a piped water supply is not available.

Drainage. There are 508 dwellings that have no drainage but 134 of these are scheduled for drains in the next financial year.

Reconditioning of old property. Two houses at Surlingham previously acquired by the Council were reconditioned and now have full amenities.

Private Houses.

Improvement grants to owners of private houses are now of two types - standard and discretionary and during the year the following grants were made :-

Discretionary grants	-	74 affecting 95 units	-	£27,125
Standard grants	-	15 affecting 15 units	-	£ 1,673

No grants were refused.

General Comment.

There was more building of all kinds in 1959, more improvement of substandard property but less unfit houses dealt with by legal process.

The gradually dwindling waiting list is a hopeful sign that the housing needs of the community are gradually being satisfied. The newly-weds, however, in the lower income groups still need cheap self-contained units and seem to have to wait longer than is wise for the stability of their marriages. The problem family whose living standards are low and birth rate correspondingly high must have the essentials of hygienic living before the combined efforts of even an army of social workers can effect an improvement. A tired, simple, incompetent mother of a large family, without piped water, with no sink or drainage, with a pail closet to be emptied in the garden is likely to be a worse housewife than she would be with some or all of the usual amenities. A few larger substandard houses would be invaluable for these very few, but very difficult families, if they could be re-conditioned to provide the modern essentials. A large family consists of future householders and anything that can short-circuit this vicious circle of slum to slum should be done now.

Finally, although the amount of improvement of pre-war Council houses has been very encouraging this year, it is rather distressing to report that there are still 508 dwellings without any drainage. Waste water stored and then thrown on the garden, often near the back door by the less particular, is a feature which should not be part of Council house occupation in the year 1959.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	1	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	95	15	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	3	-	-	-
TOTALS	99	16	3	-

Cases in which defects were found

<u>Sanitary conveniences, Section 7</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
(a) Insufficient	3	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	2
(c) No separate for sexes	-	-
TOTALS	11	2

Outwork

<u>Nature of work</u>	<u>No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110</u>	<u>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</u>
Wearing apparel - making etc.	12	-
Brush making	1	-
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	3	-
	16	-

WATER SUPPLY

A full account of the district's water supply position is dealt with in the Report of the Engineer and Surveyor. The two parishes giving the most anxiety with regard to water supply were Deopham and Braconash and it is hoped that before long a satisfactory piped supply will be available, not only to them but to the other "dry" parts of the district.

SEWERAGE

The main features of sewerage work during the year were in the parishes of Costessey, Poringland and Hingham and full details will be found in the Report of the Engineer and Surveyor.

HEALTH EDUCATION

During the year, health talks of various kinds were given by me to organised groups in many parishes. Women's Institutes, Young Wives Guilds, Old People's Clubs and Young Farmers all invited me to address them on topics associated with health and preventive medicine. A form of Brains Trust with the questions asked by the audience and the answers given spontaneously by the speaker were very popular. The members of the group found they were able to get the information they wanted rather than to have facts presented to them that they either knew already or had no bearing on their particular situation - as is often the case with a set lecture.

I find these sessions of questions a valuable means of imparting health education.

Food Hygiene

Leaflets and posters on food hygiene have been distributed from time to time as opportunity has arisen and the Royal Norfolk Show was an occasion when special efforts were made in this direction.

Mass X-Ray Unit

When the Mass Radiography Unit visited parishes within or near enough to the rural district to serve the residents, propaganda leaflets were sent by the Clerk to all the Clerks of Parish Councils in the vicinity. This has proved to be very effective in ensuring a good response from the community to this valuable public service.

Conferences and Refresher Courses

I attended 2 conferences during the year, one in January in London on the Welfare of the Elderly and the Annual Conference of the Royal Society of Health at Harrogate in April.

At the London one-day conference, I was accompanied by a Councillor, Mrs. Brooks and at the Harrogate meeting, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and the Senior Assistant Public Health Inspector also attended. Both conferences were most interesting and profitable and I was glad of the opportunity to attend them.

A Refresher Course for Medical Officers of Health was held at Keswick Training College in July and over 30 medical officers attended from all over the country. Again the subject matter was most interesting and it gave the visitors an insight into the public health problems of a rural area.

SOCIAL HEALTH

The Elderly.

No new clubs were opened in 1959 but all the old ones continued to flourish and bring much happiness and interest into the lives of the older residents in the district.

Wreningham and Rockland still have no clubs although I am sure that there are sufficient elderly people in both parishes to warrant their formation. A list of existing clubs, all of which hold regular sessions, is given below with times and places of meetings:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Meeting Place</u>	<u>Day and Time of Meeting</u>
Braconash	Reading Room	Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Colton	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
New Costessey	Scouts Hut	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Old Costessey	Parish Room	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Deopham	Church Room	Tuesday 2.15 - 4.30 p.m.
Easton	Village Hall	Wednesday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Hethersett	Methodist Hall	Wednesday 2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Hingham	Lincoln Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Marlingford	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Mulbarton	Wingfield Hall	Wednesday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Poringland	Village Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Saxlingham	Village Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Shotesham	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Trowse	Church Room	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Wicklewood	Village Hall	Wednesday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

The Disabled.

The Forehoe District Committee of the Norfolk Association for the Care of the Handicapped continued its excellent work in 1959.

Parties and outings of all kinds were arranged and special thanks are due to the voluntary drivers without whose help very few of the severely disabled would be able to attend.

Funds were raised by various means locally and these were used for social activities and to help several handicapped people to have a week's holiday at Gorleston Holiday Camp.

COUNTY SERVICES

County Council Child Welfare Centres are held at the following times and places :-

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Where Held</u>	<u>Day of Month</u>	
New Costessey	Methodist Church	3rd & last Tuesday)
Old Costessey	Parish Hall	2nd Tuesday)
Hethersett	Methodist School Room	3rd Tuesday	)Medical
Hingham	Lincoln Hall	2nd Wednesday	)Officer
Mulbarton	Wingfield Hall	1st Wednesday	)attends
Poringland	Parish Hall	1st Tuesday	)regularly
Stoke Holy Cross	Village Hall	3rd Tuesday)
Barnham Broom	Village Hall	1st Thursday)
Bawburgh	Village Hall	last Wednesday)
Easton	Church Room	3rd Monday	)Medical
Morley St.Botolph	Village Hall	3rd Thursday	)Officer
Rockland St.Mary	Margaret Mack Hall	last Tuesday	)attends
Saxlingham	Village Hall	2nd Tuesday	)occasion-
Shotesham	Trinity Hall	2nd Wednesday	)ally.

All Centres are held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

General Welfare Services

Headquarters : Local Health Office, Area 4, Aspland Road, Riverside Road, Norwich.

County Welfare Officers continue to provide general services throughout the district and in addition to Headquarters, there are the following contact points where the public can obtain advice :-

Parish Welfare Officer attends

Costessey

C/o Mrs.E.Wiseman, Wednesday -
106, Norwich Road. 11 a.m. to 12 noon

Hingham

C/o Mrs.Rosbrook, Monday -
Bell Corner. 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

GENERAL SURVEY

The health of the district was satisfactory during the year. Few of the larger number of infant deaths were from preventable causes. Both birth and death rates were slightly below the national level while both incidence and mortality from tuberculosis remained low.

Although there was an epidemic of respiratory disease in February there was no increase in mortality from influenza, bronchitis or pneumonia.

The younger age groups had a very low mortality rate but there were many more accidents on the roads.

The housing situation continued to improve but still too many pre-war Council houses lack modern amenities, particularly drains.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and all the staff of the department for their efficiency and enthusiasm.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

IRENE B.M. GREEN,

Medical Officer of Health

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended
31st. December, 1959

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1959 giving details of the work carried out by the Public Health Department.

There were no changes in the establishment of the administrative and technical staff during the year.

Throughout the year the department administered the Public Health and Housing Acts, Shops Act, Factories Act, Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, Food & Drugs Acts, Petroleum Acts and many other Orders and Regulations. It was also responsible for the inspection of meat and other foods and for duties in connection with infectious disease, disinfestation, refuse and night soil collection and disposal, cesspool emptying, moveable dwellings, private water supplies, Council-controlled cemeteries, etc.

Whilst comparatively few members of the general public are aware of the multifarious duties of a public health inspector, the old conception of the 'sanitary inspector' is gradually being replaced and there appears to be a greater understanding and appreciation of the work of a public health department.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The following summary shows details of the main inspections and visits carried out by the technical staff.

Housing Acts	536	Refuse, Night Soil &	
Public Health Acts	225	Cesspool Emptying	235
Complaints & Nuisances	206	Housing Act, 1949	
Infectious diseases	224	(Improvement Grants)	930
Fumigations	1		
Meat and other Foods	1901	Petroleum Acts	59
Shops Act & Food Hygiene		Factories Act	32
Regulations	338	Moveable dwellings	87
Knacker's Yard	4	Miscellaneous	240
Water supplies	253	(Prevention of Damage	
Cemeteries	120	by Pests Act, Rent	
		Act, Royal Norfolk	
		Show, etc.)	
			<hr/>
			5391
			<hr/>

WATER SUPPLIES

The general source of water supply in the district is from mains, details of which are given in the Engineer's Report. The only parts of the district which are without a mains supply at all are Barnham Broom, Braconash, Brandon Parva, Carleton Forehoe, Coston, Deopham, Dunston, Holverston, Runhall and Welborne. With the exception of Holverston, schemes are already in course of preparation for supplying these areas.

Plumbo-solvent action is unlikely to take place in connection with piped supplies and periodic sampling of these supplies revealed no pollution.

During the year 82 samples were taken of which 43 were found to be unsatisfactory. In many cases this resulted in connection to mains supply. Appropriate action was taken in all other cases.

The dry winter of 1958-1959 followed by an exceptionally dry summer caused water shortages in a number of parishes. The parishes most seriously affected were Barnham Broom and Deopham and an emergency scheme was put into operation by the Council.

DRAINAGE NUISANCE - SEWER DITCHES

In a number of the parishes which are not served by a sewerage system there are one or more sewer ditches. These have been in use for many years and receive drainage from sink wastes, yard gullies and cesspool overflows. Whilst some cause no trouble there is always the possibility that a serious nuisance will arise from this source and during the year those at Barford, Barnham Broom, Poringland, Saxlingham and Wreningham needed investigation. No work was carried out by the Council during the year but it was agreed to clean out the ditch at Saxlingham early in 1960.

A serious nuisance from flooding occurred at Deopham due to choked ditches and drains. Additional drainage works were carried out by the owners concerned and it is hoped that no further nuisance will arise. In any case it was considered that the main flooding was not a public health matter. Sewer ditches are extremely difficult to deal with once they have become established. The piping in of a ditch may only remove the nuisance to another point and village sewerage schemes are the only long term answer.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

This branch of the public health services has again been in great demand and the figures which follow show a slight increase in the amount of work carried out compared with the previous year.

The service continued to operate with 2 vehicles, each vehicle being manned by a driver only.

It had been thought that the expansion of sewerage schemes would reduce the demand on this service but in view of the increase in the number of new dwellings in the smaller parishes, I think it is safe to say that the existing organisation cannot be reduced for some years.

The following details show the amount of work carried out during the year.

No. of visits:

(a)	Private	...	...	...	1572
(b)	Council	...	...	...	25 (Engineer's Dept.)
(c)	Outside district	...	...	...	39

No. of loads:

(a)	Private	...	...	...	2208
(b)	Council	...	...	...	53 (Engineer's Dept.)
(c)	Outside district	...	...	...	74

In my 1958 Report I referred to the desirability of considering a free cesspool emptying service and I still feel that, in fairness to those rate payers who live in parishes which have no sewerage scheme, further thought should be given to this matter.

NIGHT SOIL COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service continued to operate satisfactorily throughout the year and although the demand existed it was not possible to enlarge the scheme to any great extent.

The policy of carrying out this work during the hours of darkness was continued and approximately 1000 properties received this service each week.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

No alterations were made in the organisation of the scheme during the year and this service operated satisfactorily. Four of the larger parishes in the district had a weekly collection and the remaining parishes were visited every fortnight. There still remains a comparatively small number of isolated groups and single dwellings which cannot receive this service without an increase in personnel.

During the year one of the vehicles, which had become unserviceable, was replaced by a new Dual-Tip type of Refuse Collector. In addition, three second-hand rear-loading type vehicles were purchased from a neighbouring Authority. This will allow the other vehicles to be serviced more efficiently and provide reliefs in cases of breakdown.

The present scheme requires 4 vehicles always to be available for full time service. The present fleet consists of 1 - Dual Tip type, 1 side-loader and 5 rear-loaders.

Disposal of refuse took place at Council-controlled tips at Hackford and Ketteringham (completed during the year) and at privately owned points at Bramerton, Costessey, Hethersett, Poringland and Ashwellthorpe (Depwade R.D.C.) The method of disposal was, wherever possible, strictly by the recognised controlled system.

Whilst the facilities provided at privately owned tips were very helpful, indiscriminate tipping of all kinds of refuse by other persons resulted in several serious outbreaks of fire, which are not only a danger to corn crops but also create nuisance.

By the end of the year pits at Cringleford had been acquired under lease from the owner, and will replace those at Hethersett and Ketteringham.

The following figures show the amount of work carried out during the year:-

No. of dwellings in the district	...	...	8449
No. of dwellings served	...	...	8077
No. of loads collected	...	...	1685
Approximate tonnage	...	...	5055

SALVAGE

There was no special salvage scheme but a bonus was paid to the refuse collectors on materials salvaged from the normal refuse collection. This resulted in 6 tons. 10 cwts. 1 qr. 21 lbs. of Paper, Cardboard, Rags and Metals being sold for the sum of £111. 19. 10.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Work under this heading continued to be carried out by one operator. Practically the whole of his time was taken up by surveys and dealing with complaints at private properties and it was impossible to carry out any large scale work on business premises or agricultural holdings. However, no serious complaints were received from these latter sources.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year in accordance with the details required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:-

Number of properties inspected:

(a) as a result of notification	...	...	210
(b) by survey under the Act	...	...	4745

Number of properties found to be infested:

(a) major infestation	21
(b) minor infestation	719

Number of properties treated	740
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H O U S I N G

(a) SLUM CLEARANCE. Survey work in connection with categorising dwellings according to their state of repair, was confined to the parishes of Deopham and Costessey. The Slum Clearance (Outside Inspections) Sub-Committee visited 47 dwellings and of these 20 were recommended for demolition orders, 2 for closing orders, 14 for undertakings not to re-let, 5 for repair and in 6 cases action was adjourned. It was also decided to suspend further action on a group of 9 dwellings for a period of 3 years.

In previous reports I have stressed the need for proper control of sub-standard dwellings which are not considered ripe for immediate slum clearance and I again suggest that more consideration should be given to the purchase of this type of property by local authorities, especially in cases where it is considered reasonable to enforce the carrying out of repairs.

The erection of local authority dwellings is on the decrease and it may soon be that in many districts the need to build will cease. It may even become unnecessary to build for slum clearance re-housing purposes, as casual vacancies in existing dwellings may fulfil the purpose. If this is so, I am sure that many local authorities could do much useful work for the cause of housing by purchasing and preserving existing dwellings, not necessarily temporary repairs but complete reconstruction or reconditioning in suitable cases.

(b) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS. The figures show a small increase in the number of applications received. During the year a new type of grant to be known as a 'Standard' grant was introduced by the Ministry. This new scheme is obligatory on all local authorities, the main reason being to encourage owners to provide certain amenities in dwellings without having to carry out other structural improvements necessary to comply with the requirements of the original grant scheme. This latter scheme is to remain as 'Discretionary' grants.

By the end of the year the new 'Standard' grant scheme did not appear to have really got going and only 15 applications had been received. It is pleasing to note that again the properties for letting exceeded the owner/occupier properties in the 'Discretionary' grant applications.

This section of housing work takes up a large part of the department's time but is so closely connected with sub-standard dwellings and affects many properties which might otherwise fall out of use. It is pleasing to assist in raising the standard of accommodation by these means and it is hoped that financial assistance will be available for this section of housing work for many years.

The following details give the main facts in connection with applications received and approved:-

No. of applications received	...	....	78
No. of units concerned	...	...	100
No. of applications approved	...	...	74
No. of units concerned	...	...	95
Owner/Occupier dwellings	...	...	43
Dwellings let	...	...	52
Total amount of grants approved	...	...	£27,125
Applications pending at 31.12.59	...	...	4

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There is no Council controlled site in the district but three small privately owned sites were licensed, the largest of which held 14 moveable dwellings of various types. A number of single caravans were stationed about the district and in the majority of cases were licensed. Existing legislation gave little assistance in dealing with unlicensed sites.

It would appear that in this district the caravan problem is getting much less serious and there is now only a small 'hardcore' of cases, mainly in the parish of Costessey, where statutory action is desirable. It is hoped that legislation in the near future will enable local authorities to deal with such cases.

14 licences were granted for periods not exceeding 12 months for the stationing of single caravans, mainly on sites where new dwellings are being erected. 1 application for a licence was refused on public health grounds.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are 6 licensed slaughterhouses in the district and these provide meat supplies for consumption in the district and also substantial 'export' supplies.

The policy of 100% inspection of all carcasses continued and this entailed a considerable strain on the staff of the public health department, especially in connection with work outside normal working hours and at the end of the year there did not seem to be any hope of the situation being eased.

Whilst it is realised that recruitment into the public health service has not kept pace with replacements and additions required to meet the present demand for Public Health Inspectors, I cannot understand why the Ministry have not provided greater financial assistance in special cases such as exist in this area. Is it that the Ministry are not

really aware of the extreme difficulties which exist in some areas? I am of the opinion that the whole system of meat inspection in the country as a whole requires early and full investigation. It is completely wrong for such an important section of the health service to be left to sort itself out when perhaps some kind of general co-ordination of the resources at present available, or even compulsory direction by the Ministry, would improve matters and level out the present uneven inspection of meat.

SUMMARY OF ANIMALS KILLED AND INSPECTED

<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Steers</u>	<u>Heifers</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sows & Boars</u>	<u>Total</u>
95	778	2,553	712	46	3,687	26,580	1,175	35,626

<u>All diseases</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
<u>Ex. Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>					

Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	2	-	21
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Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	1805	423	7	434	5,148
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Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	53.75	54.6	19.6	11.8	18.7
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Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses	1	1	-	-	3
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Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	41	181	-	-	1254
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Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.25	23.4	-	-	4.6
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Cysticercosis

Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	77	6	-	7	-
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Carcases treated by refrigeration	77	6	-	-	-
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Generalised and condemned	-	-	-	-	-
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CONDEMNED MEAT

Disposal of condemned meat took place at the Concentrator Plant of the Norwich Corporation which is situate adjacent to the district boundary, with the exception of a small quantity from one private slaughterhouse which was disposed of on the premises.

The number of carcasses affected with cysticercus bovis showed an overall increase of 9, but the number of cattle affected other than cows, was nearly double that of the previous year, whilst the number of cows affected showed a considerable decrease. The percentage of carcasses affected remained at approximately 5%.

The following are details of meat condemned:-

BEEF

2	Cows	(1 Gangrenous) (1 Generalised Tuberculosis)
1	Steer	(Septic Peritonitis)
1	Heifer	(Generalised Tuberculosis)

VEAL

2	Calves	(1 Moribund) (1 Malignant Neoplasms)
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PORK

3	Sows	(1 Septic Pericarditis) (1 Multiple Abscesses) (1 Generalised Tuberculosis)
21	Pigs	(7 Fevered) (3 Septic Pleurisy and Peritonitis) (3 Swine Fever) (2 Generalised Tuberculosis) (2 Septic Pleurisy) (2 Multiple Abscesses) (1 Oedema) (1 Enteritis/Urinous)

MUTTON

2	Lambs	(Mould growth - Imported Frozen)
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	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
<u>Weight of carcasses condemned</u> -	2	7	0	13
<u>Weight of parts of carcasses</u> -	37	1	2	23
<u>and offal condemned</u>				
Total weight condemned -	39	8	3	8

FOOD PREMISES

The following details are given in accordance with the Ministry's requirements:-

(1)	Number of food premises in the area	...	...	138
(2)	(a) Number of and type of food premises registered under Section 16, Food & Drugs Act, 1955	...	...
	(i) Sausage manufacture	...	...	17
	(ii) Meat products	...	...	12
	(iii) Fish premises	...	...	4
	(iv) Ice cream sale	...	...	56
	(b) Number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54	...	...	18
(3)	Inspections of registered premises	...	...	277
(4)	Educational activity	...	...	nil.
(5)	Disposal of condemned food	(All condemned food is rendered down in high pressure units, the majority at the Kitchen Waste and Condemned Meat Plant of the Norwich Corporation)		
(6)	Consignments of food examined and condemned	...	1.cwt.12 lbs. (tinned food)	
(7)	Ice cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952	...	...	nil.
(8)	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-1956	(Visits and inspections were made during the year during normal routine work and to follow up informal action which had been taken in connection with works to comply with the Regulations).		

MILK REGULATIONS

The following licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk)Regulations, 1949 and the Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:-

Dealer's licence for "Pasteurised"	...	...	21
Dealer's Supplementary licence for "Pasteurised"	...	...	6
Dealer's licence for "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	18
Dealer's Supplementary licence for "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	9

GENERAL

In addition to the normal responsibilities of the department which have previously been referred to in detail, many other duties are undertaken concerning food hygiene at public shows, council-controlled cemeteries, maintenance of public service vehicles and miscellaneous nuisances.

The rural public health inspector's office seems invariably to become a public information bureau and countless enquiries are received and information and advice sought on a variety of subjects.

The public health inspector is expected to know all the answers and solve any complaint and even perform the miracle of persuading each neighbour that it wasn't the other neighbour who lodged the complaint!

It is interesting to record that during the year investigations included such things as the pollution of a private lake, nuisance from lead smelting, to say nothing of a request to postpone night soil collection until a cocktail party had dispersed!

The details given in this report show that a great part of the department's time is taken up with housing, (in particular improvement grants) and meat inspection. Whether the next few years will see any substantial change in this pattern will depend to a large degree upon future Government policy.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Council and in particular the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and consideration. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to my staff for their conscientious work and help throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY A. J. BROWNE, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Ber House,
NORWICH

R E P O R T
OF
THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR
FOR THE YEAR 1959

W A T E R S U P P L Y

GENERAL

26 parishes in the district are within the Statutory Water Supply Area of the Norwich Corporation, and in all of these mains water is available.

Under revenue guarantee agreements with the Council, the Corporation extensions of water mains at Cuckoofield Lane, Mulbarton; Bawburgh Lane, Costessey; and Oak Avenue, Poringland, serve a total of 33 dwellings.

The Council laid no new mains in its own area of supply during the year. At Newton Flotman the pump, which was due for overhaul was withdrawn from the borehole and replaced by a new pump of higher delivery capacity, in order to cope with anticipated increase in demand when the mains served from this source are extended to supply the village of Flordon.

The Council's Water Supply Area comprises 16 parishes and in 11 of these mains water is now available. The parishes of Wrenningham, Newton Flotman and Kimberley are supplied with water from the Council's own boreholes, and the remaining part of the area is supplied with water which is purchased in bulk from the Norwich Corporation and the Wymondham Urban District Council.

The estimated population within the Council's Supply Area is 7,500 and of these approximately 3,900 have a mains water supply.

At Barnham Broom, Runhall, Braconash and Deopham where no mains are present, the post-war housing sites are supplied with piped water from wells or boreholes equipped with pressure pumping sets.

S E W E R A G E

COSTESSEY

Work on Phase 2 of Section 3 of the Costessey Sewerage Scheme commenced in November. This phase provides for the sewerage of the whole of Old Costessey not already sewered, and includes the construction of 2 pumping stations, one at West End and one at Townhouse Road which will raise sewage from these two areas into sewers through which it will gravitate to the main Longwater Lane Pumping Station. The present contract also includes the installation of a diesel alternator to provide current for the pumps at the latter in a case of failure of the mains electricity supply.

At present 620 dwellings, 3 schools and a slaughterhouse are connected to the Costessey Sewers.

PORINGLAND

Apart from minor works at the sewage disposal works on general clearing up, Section 2 of the Poringland Sewerage Scheme was substantially completed during the year, and most of the new sewers have been put into service. These provide sewerage facilities along the whole of The Street, Heath Loke, Oak Avenue, Sunnyside, Stoke Road, part of Long Lane, Norwich Road, as far north as Octagon Farm, Caistor Lane and Southwood Drive. The Council houses at Hill Site and Mill Road were connected to the new sewers and the existing small sewage works which served these properties was dismantled. The new Secondary Modern School at Norwich Road has also been connected to the sewers.

At present some 100 houses and 2 schools discharge into the Poringland sewers.

HINGHAM

Work was completed this year on the Hall Moor Sewerage extension which provides for sewerage of Deopham Road and Low Road. The sewage gravitates to a pumping station at Deopham Road, and is pumped to the gravity sewer near Mill Corner.

354 houses, 1 School and a slaughterhouse are at present connected to the Hingham sewers.

GENERAL

A sewerage system is maintained at Trowse Newton, part which also serves part of Bixley. Approximately 150 houses and one school are connected to the sewers. The sewage gravitates to a pumping station from which it is pumped into the sewers of the Norwich Corporation.

At Cuckooofield Lane, Mulbarton, extensions were constructed at the housing site sewage disposal works, comprising a new settlement tank new filter bed and new humus tank. The extension was made to deal with the increased flow from the site and to provide sewage disposal facilities for the 24 new houses there.

Deopham housing site, comprising 24 dwellings was sewered this year and a small sewage disposal works was constructed. These houses have hitherto drained into cesspools which have been a frequent cause of nuisance. The new sewer also serves the Deopham County Primary School.

Sewers and sewage disposal plants are maintained at 20 Council housing sites, and these serve 392 houses, 2 schools and the County Fire Service Headquarters.

COSTESSEY STREET LIGHTING

Lighting was installed this year at Dereham Road (part A.47) Costessey, to illuminate the length between the Norwich City Boundary and the Round Well P.H. The installation was of Group 'A' standard comprising 69 - 140 watt sodium discharge lamps mounted on 66 - 25ft. high concrete columns.

N E W B U I L D I N G

During the year 745 plans were deposited for Town Planning permission or Building Byelaw approval compared with 590 such applications in 1958.

120 private houses and 20 Council houses were completed this year and at the end of December, 71 private and 80 Council houses were under construction.

Supervision of the work and administration of the Building Bye-laws has proceeded smoothly and there have been discovered no Byelaw infringements which necessitated formal action. Excellent co-operation with the builders in the district is maintained and all difficulties which have arisen have been satisfactorily dealt with informally.

WILLIAM A. JONES, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

Engineer and Surveyor.

S T A F F

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Irene B.M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods,
Shops Inspector and Inspector under the
Petroleum Acts

Geoffrey A. J. Browne, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS :

B.B.G. South, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

G.J.L. Horne, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

T.A. Dawkins, M.A.P.H.I.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR :

William A. Jones, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.
